

# The Keller Report



JULY 2020 KELLER.HOUSE.GOV

### Congressman Fred Keller

#### SERVING PENNSYLVANIA'S 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Dear Neighbor,

In these unprecedented times, the work being done in Congress to stand up for small businesses and their employees and provide economic security to American families is more meaningful than ever. This is the second edition of the Keller Report, a newsletter providing an update on our efforts to serve you at home and in Washington.

It is the honor of a lifetime to represent you in Congress. My mission remains to ensure that the values and voices of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District are reflected in Washington and imprinted on our legislative action.

As Pennsylvania continues to recover from the pandemic and re-open our economy, I am excited to continue traveling across central and northeastern Pennsylvania to meet directly with the hardworking people who drive our great nation. The people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District are the most diligent, thoughtful, and hardworking Americans that you will find anywhere, and I am proud to be your representative in Congress.

Sincerely,

Fred Keller

Member of Congress



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### Helping to Weather COVID-19

#### STANDING UP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND FAMILIES

Congress's relief efforts over the past several months to respond to COVID-19 have been nothing short of remarkable. Thanks to quick, decisive, and bipartisan action, Congress has delivered families and small businesses several tools to help weather the pandemic, including:

- Economic Impact Payments: Direct payments to individuals to ensure financial sustainability.
- Paycheck Protection and Economic Injury Disaster Loans: Forgivable loans and advances to small businesses to keep workers employed and cover costs.
- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program: Helping farmers with agricultural purchases.
- Extended leave benefits: Protecting workers and their families from COVID-19 exposure.
- Provider Relief Fund: Ensuring hospitals have necessary supplies and critical resources to flatten the curve.

For more information about available federal resources, visit Keller. House. Gov.



# Delivering for Central and Northeastern Pennsylvania

Whether advocating for the Williamsport Levee Project that has now received substantial federal funding or supporting rural broadband expansion projects across central and northeast Pennsylvania, including the Appalachian Regional Commission's \$2.5 million grant for the Northern Pennsylvania Broadband Connectivity Project, Congressman Keller continues to deliver for Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District.

"The people of central and northeastern
Pennsylvania sent me to Congress to ensure their
voice is heard and our communities are represented
in Washington," Congressman Keller said. "I am
proud of the accomplishments our team has made
in the district and in Washington to ensure our area
can continue critical infrastructure and economic
development projects that will put us in a great
position for future success."

In addition to the Washington, D.C. office, Congressman Keller encourages constituents to contact any one of the three district offices for questions or concerns related to the federal government. "Our team is here to serve you," Congressman Keller added. "If there is anything you need from the federal government, please utilize the resources offered by our Congressional office to get your questions answered."



Congressman Fred Keller discusses a local rural broadband grant in Coudersport, Potter County

# Standing Up for Our Farmers

Our nation's farmers do the work every day of ensuring Americans have safe, affordable, and nutritious food. However, some Hollywood types and out-of-touch elites think our dairy industry should be eliminated and our farmers re-educated. This is wrong, and Congressman Keller is pushing back.

Earlier this year, when Oscar winner Joaquin Phoenix called for the elimination of the dairy industry in his award acceptance speech and video emerged of former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg insulting the intelligence of farmers, Congressman Keller spoke out and defended America's farmers.

"Whether it is Joaquin Phoenix or Michael Bloomberg, I will take on any individual who believes our farmers are anything short of extraordinary. Farming is a full-time job that requires individuals to be agronomists, accountants, meteorologists, mechanics, and salespersons all the time, every day," Congressman Keller said. "My stepfather was a farmer and I know their struggles and joys. I will never stop advocating or standing up for our nation's farmers."

The first two bills that Congressman Keller sponsored when he got to Congress – the Dairy Pride Act and the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act – would support our dairy industry. Congressman Keller was also a vocal advocate for passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and supported strengthening USDA's nutrition assistance programs, including the Farm to Food Bank Projects.



Congressman Fred Keller, center, tours Barnett Farms in Coudersport, Potter County

# Fighting for Your Right to Earn a Livelihood



Congressman Fred Keller, second from left, tours Conestoga Wood Specialties in Beaver Springs, Snyder County with U.S. Labor Secretary Gene Scalia

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Congressman Keller has been active in calling out Gov. Tom Wolf's confused and overly broad business shutdown order and in seeking a swift and safe re-opening of Pennsylvania's economy.

"Gov. Wolf shut down our state's economy without a cogent plan and has re-opened the economy in an inconsistent manner that puts politics over pragmatism," Congressman Keller said. "Businessowners and employees have been following public health guidance in ensuring workers and customers are kept safe. We need to re-open our economy quickly and safely."

Congressman Keller has voted for measures to help small businesses and their employees, like the Paycheck Protection Program that has provided more than \$517 billion to help small businesses keep employees on payroll, and Economic Impact Payments that provided direct relief to families and individuals. In response to discussions with small businesses across central and northeast Pennsylvania, Congressman Keller supported the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act, which extended the period for borrowers to use PPP funds and granted additional flexibility to ensure workers keep their jobs.

# IMPROVING LAW ENFORCEMENT



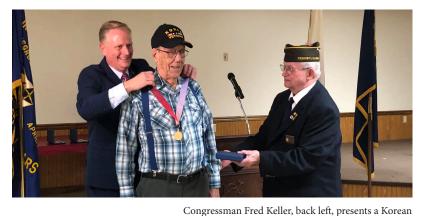
Congressman Fred Keller at a law enforcement listening session in Sunbury, Northumberland County

As Congress continues to discuss ways to change law enforcement practices and use of force guidelines, Congressman Keller has made it a priority to hear from Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District by holding listening sessions with law enforcement, community leaders, local lawmakers, and others in the community about law enforcement improvement measures.

"The vast majority of police officers do the job right and selflessly protect our communities, but it is clear that more needs to be done to weed out bad actors and improve relations between police and the communities they serve," Congressman Keller said. "During our listening sessions, we heard repeatedly that training, accountability, and transparency are necessary, however one-size-fits-all national models are inappropriate. Policing in Sunbury or Selinsgrove is different than policing in Philadelphia or Pittsburgh."

In Congress, Congressman Keller is an original co-sponsor of the JUSTICE Act, legislation introduced in the House and Senate that reflects many of the priorities Congressman Keller has been hearing about in his district-wide listening sessions.

# HONORING OUR VETERANS

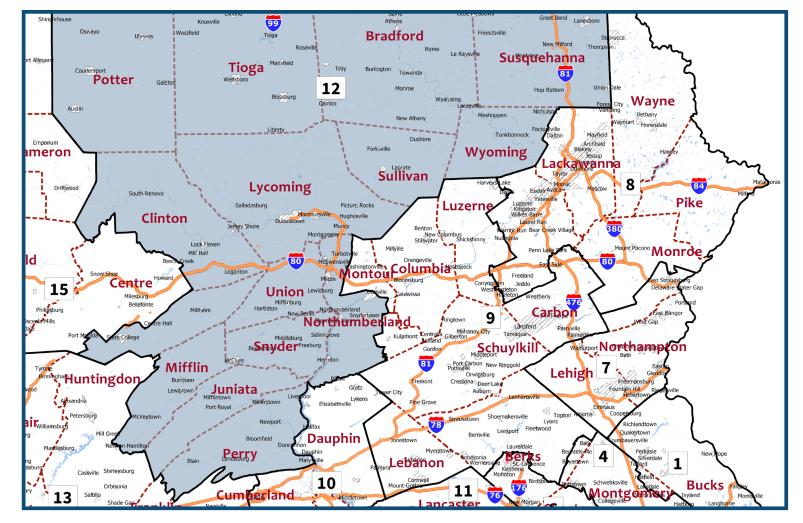


Ambassador for Peace Medal in Selinsgrove, Snyder County

Congressman Keller believes that our rights have been given by our Creators, guaranteed in our Constitution, and paid for by our veterans. As such, we owe our nation's veterans and their families the same level of commitment they have given to our country.

"Those who serve our nation put their lives on the line and their personal needs on hold to ensure our freedoms are protected and the cause of liberty is advanced around the world," Congressman Keller said. "One of my main priorities in Congress is to make sure we advance pro-veteran legislation and our veterans and their families get the help and support they need."

Recently, Congressman Keller supported several pro-veteran measures, including the Veteran HOUSE Act to help end veteran homelessness and open STEM learning opportunities for the veteran community. Prior to COVID-19, Congressman Keller presented Korean Ambassador for Peace Medals to Korean War Veterans across Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District.



# CONGRESSMAN FRED KELLER FIGHTING FOR PENNSYLVANIA VALUES

**Contact Congressman Keller** 

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#### **Tunkhannock Office**

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#### Williamsport Office

1020 Commerce Park Drive Suite 1A Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 322-3961

# We Are Ready to Serve Pennsylvania





### **Help with Government Agencies**

If you feel you are not getting the customer service you deserve or are finding the federal government difficult to navigate, please contact one of our district offices to request assistance.



### Request a Flag

Our Washington, DC office will help you purchase a flag that has been flown over the U.S. Capitol Building.



### **Resources for Students**

Visit our official website to find a full list of services and opportunities that can help your child maximize their full potential and interests; including DC internships and Service Academy Nominations.



### **DC Tours & Tickets**

If you are planning a trip to our Nation's Capital, contact our Washington, DC office ahead of time to request a White House or U.S. Capitol Building tour and enquire about tickets to other DC attractions.



#### **Veterans Services**

Contact one of our District Offices to request assistance with VA claims, military service records, or replacement of your service medals.

